


respectfully requested and an early and favorable action on the merits of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS  
TO SHOW CHANGES

1. (amended) A method of decorating an article[, the method] of glazed tableware comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing a thermochromic ink with a first coating material to form a first coating mixture:[,]

(b) applying the first coating mixture onto [part or all of a] substantially the whole outer surface of the tableware article[,];

(c) once the first coating mixture is set, applying a second transparent coating material [onto said surface of the article.] over the first coating mixture;

wherein the second coating material is substantially dishwasher proof.

4. (amended) A method according to [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1 wherein the first coating material is transparent.

5. (amended) A method according to [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 1 wherein the first and/or second coating materials comprise lacquers.

6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the first coating material comprises [an organic] a water based lacquer.

7. (amended) A method according to [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 1 wherein the first coating material comprises an acrylic based lacquer.

9. (amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the proportion of ink in the mixture is within the range 5-25% by volume.

10. (amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the mixture and/or second coating material are cured following application onto the article.

12. (amended) A method according to [claims 10 or 11] claim 1 wherein the curing includes a heat cure comprising a lower temperature first period, followed by a higher temperature second period.

14. (amended) A method according to [claims 12 or 13] claim 1 wherein for the second coating the first period lasts between eight and twelve minutes at 35 to 65°C, with the second period lasting twenty five to thirty minutes at 110 to 165°C.

15. (amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein a decoration is provided on the article beneath the mixture such that when the thermochromic ink is at least translucent, said decoration is visible.

16. (amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the mixture comprises a plurality of thermochromic inks with different colour change temperatures.

18. (amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the mixture and/or second coating material are applied to the article by spraying.

21. (amended) A method according to [claims 18 or 20] claim 18 wherein the mixture and/or the second coating material are sprayed to a thickness of between 12 and 24 microns.

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